

# JAPANESE LABORERS ON MAUI ARE TURBULENT

Bloodshed is Averted  
By Soft Words.

## RIOT AT SPRECKELSVILLE

Latest Information Says the Men  
are Returning to Work  
and Strike is Off.

(Special Correspondence.)

KAHULU, Maui, June 23.—Since Admission Day a restless, turbulent spirit seems to have taken possession of the Japanese laborers on the most of the Maui plantations. They do not know what they want; they strike without any good reason, make exorbitant and unreasonable demands as to increase wages and in other matters, and sometimes, excited beyond bounds by agitators, do or threaten to do acts of violence.

Most of the turbulence can be traced to agitators or a few leaders. The plantation manager's lot at present is not a happy one. "Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown"—or rather that manages a plantation where Japanese labor is employed.

On Monday, the 18th, the 200 strikers at Hamakua returned to work as usual, and are still in an industrious mood. A rumor was current on the same day that Manager Wells of Wailuku, in disgust ordered all his striking Japs to leave the plantation premises, "bag and baggage." This summary action seems to have been of good effect, for it is now stated that many of the recent Japanese have returned to work.

On the 19th, at Spreckelsville, no work was in progress but irrigation, and Hawaiians, Portuguese and Chinese were engaged at that. All the shipped Japanese, "struck" and at last reports had not returned to work.

During the 20th, while a census enumerator was engaged in his legal business among the Japanese at Spreckelsville, the crowd for some reason attacked his interpreter (a Japanese), beat him and used him very roughly. Eight or nine of the ringleaders were arrested, but not without difficulty, for the police were stoned while performing their duty.

For ten days past it has been most regretted that the Pala Japanese were not satisfied. A few leaders of bad disposition were undoubtedly urging their countrymen to strike. On Friday the expected event took place, and 300 armed men stopped work. At Pala many events of Friday were of a rough nature.

The manager returned their contracts and they departed. They committed something about "bonuses" and their camp boss, whom they threatened to kill. Many of the Japs returned to work today, though there are reports of further trouble.

At Hana and Hamoa plantations everything is quiet. Twenty or thirty of the bad men from each plantation and the others have behaved properly.

## SPRECKELSVILLE EMBEULE.

Manager Lowrie by Fair Words Prevents Probable Murder.

(Special Correspondence.)

SPRECKELSVILLE, Maui, June 22.—Today the big strike at Spreckelsville was over. It has been decided to give the Japanese their contracts, and they are now returning to work.

SPRECKELSVILLE, June 21.—Considerable rioting took place at Spreckelsville yesterday, and for a time things looked extremely serious. On Tuesday a census taker, a native of Hawaii, assisted by a Wailuku Japanese as interpreter, arrived at Camp Five to take the census. He was met by a crowd of about 100 Japs, who were very hostile to him. He was called for. Although he had gone through several other camps all right, he was not at all prepared to be so abused. The interpreter, thinking, so they say, that he was a spy who had some connection with the plantation or the police; and, spite of his explanations that he was for the time being a United States official, they became so menacing that the two men had to beat a hasty retreat.

The native, being a fleet runner, managed to escape, but the Japanese was caught and savagely beaten by the cowardly crowd. His face looks something like that of the would-be shipping agent in Honolulu whom the crimps have operated upon. Of course such outrages could not be allowed to pass unheeded, and the following morning Sheriff Baldwin summoned a posse of local police and with all the regular members of the force that could be secured, accompanied by the two census takers, proceeded to Spreckelsville. He had also called upon the plantation authorities to turn out all the white men on the place and come to his assistance, so that the men who had done the beating might be arrested. When the force got together the crowd had over fifty mounted men at its disposal.

The posse proceeded to Camp Five, surrounded every house and carefully searched through the camp. As the Japs identified the men who had beaten the census taker, and who were placed under arrest, and seven men had been taken.

One principal ringleader could not be found, as he had left the camp. So far as the Japs had gone peacefully, and the sheriff and Mr. Lowrie were indefatigable in their efforts to get the men of the plantation to return to work. A train was sent for to convey the strikers to Wailuku; but while waiting for its arrival a crowd of laborers from the next camp arrived on the scene, armed with hoes, iron bars, sticks, stones, pick handles, and, in fact, anything they could lay their hands on. They were yelling like a parcel of fiends and numbered about two hundred men.

The prisoners were hastily sent off to the next hill under a small escort, while the rest of the police force and the interpreter went to the front and endeavored to explain why the Japs had been made, but the crowd would not listen. Stones began to fly, and after due warning through the interpreter, which had not the least effect, the sheriff ordered the police to charge. Blacksnake whips were the weapons used, but they proved to be of no use, for the Japs broke and fled in all directions, with the exception of the ringleader, who offered considerable resistance, and who was arrested as a prisoner and sent off to Wailuku.

Very shortly afterward the men from another camp arrived, but as they were not armed and did not seem to be dangerous, they were parleyed with. After explanations from the sheriff and Mr. Lowrie, and being assured that the police were not on the ground because of the pending strike, they were sent off to Wailuku.

the census takers, they were finally persuaded to go back home. Meanwhile runners had gone out and summoned the Japs from every camp on the plantation, inflaming them with terrible tales as to what the police were doing, and men began to pour in by fifties and hundreds, till the posse had 800 hostile men on one side and 600 on the other.

The road at this place has a field of high cane, with a strong barbed wire fence on one side and a deep and wide watercourse on the other. The Japs had evidently many ex-soldiers among them, for they had made their dispositions for a fight with great skill. Flocks of men with piles of rocks ready gathered were stationed inside the fence and across the stream, where mounted men could not get at them, and it began to look as if serious and bloody fighting would ensue.

Then became apparent the wisdom of having brought the plantation manager onto the scene, for Mr. Lowrie, taking with him the plantation interpreter, was here, there and everywhere. He addressed the men in a wise and well-considered manner, and was listened to with such patience by them, that gradually things quieted down and the police were enabled to withdraw without molestation.

It is to be feared, however, that yesterday's affair will be very disadvantageous to the plantation, for the ringleaders will use it as a means to further put off the settlement of the strike. Of course, everything possible was done to explain that the presence of the plantation lunas was not connected in any way with the labor trouble, but was unavoidable after they had been called upon by the police authorities for assistance. There are, however, more than 2,000 Japanese on Spreckelsville, the majority of whom have only been a few months in Hawaii, and they are normally ignorant, and consequently abnormally suspicious. Threats were made last night that the whole body of Japanese would go to Wailuku and take out the prisoners from the jail by force. Precautions were taken, but the night passed without any further demonstration, and the trial is set for 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

Meanwhile the strikers still remain out, and they will stay out till such time as the deputations which they have sent to Honolulu shall return and report. These men, nineteen in all, went down last week to consult the Consul and the immigration companies, and probably much depends on what advice they will give to their fellow laborers on their return.

## SMALL STRIKE AT PALA.

Japanese Return to Work After Having Their Say.

(Special Correspondence.)

PALA, Maui, June 22.—Yesterday, June 21st, the Maui planters met at Wailuku and considered how best to keep the laborers quiet. It was decided to give them their contracts by the end of the month. Some of the plantations at once announced to their laborers that they could get their contracts; others that they would give the laborers their cancelled contracts on pay-day, at the end of the month. The Japs at Pala were informed they would receive theirs on pay-day and they seemed satisfied, but when they learned that some of the plantations had given out their contracts already, the Pala Japs decided to make a demand at once for their contracts, and struck this morning, marching down to the plantation office in a body—bag and baggage.

After considerable palaver the laborers were made to understand that they were already free men by the act of the United States Congress, and that the returning of their certificates was simply a matter of form. The manager informed them that he was perfectly willing to give them the papers just as soon as they could be cancelled. As soon as the facts were made clear to the men they went quietly home and expressed their willingness to return to work.

## REFORMER ON MAUI.

Leung Chi-tso Received With Open Arms by Chinese.

(Special Correspondence.)

WAILUKU, Maui, June 23.—Wednesday, the 20th, the Chinese reformer, Leung Chi-tso, and suite arrived on Maui per Claudine from Honolulu. A large number of Chinese were at Kahului to receive him. They formed a double line down the long pier to the freight house, and after landing Leung Chi-tso shook hands with each of his countrymen in turn as he walked slowly between the lines.

The same night he addressed three or four hundred Chinese in the Wailuku skating rink.

During the next night, Thursday, he visited Wailuku. During Friday forenoon he visited the Chinese Mission School, of which Miss Turner is principal. He made an address to the students. During the afternoon he visited Wailuku, and during the evening he spoke in the Wailuku court house.

This afternoon he will speak in Makawao, at Pockela Church. He has an English interpreter with him. Leung Chi-tso has made a good impression among all classes of people.

## ADMISSION DAY'S PICNIC.

Spreckelsville Plantation Had a Great Big Time.

(Special Correspondence.)

SPRECKELSVILLE, Maui, June 23.—Spreckelsville celebrated Admission Day on the 16th, as that day was most convenient to the plantation and gave the laborers Sunday to rest up. The committee, headed by Messrs. A. Adams and Vander Naillen, decided on having it in the pasture below the mill, the very best place that could be found, groves of algeroba trees giving a delicious and cool shade to those who did not like to expose themselves too much to the burning June sun, with tables and benches here and there, a dozen or more of swings for the younger folks, all made a pleasing impression. Close by was an open space where most of the sports took place, such as tug-of-war, bicycle races, climbing a greased pole, catching a greased pig, and shaved pig, horse races, etc., etc., all of which seemed tremendously to amuse not only the performers themselves but also the onlookers.

There was a considerable crowd of ladies and gentlemen of all colors and nationalities, but the colors of the white, red and blue were in profusion everywhere, were a sure proof of the gladness all felt in being admitted to the United States. A luau was spread for the natives and those who liked to have a dip in the pool calabashes.

The day itself was a very fine, sunny day; the only drawback was a strong wind blowing from early morning, sending clouds and clouds of dust continually over and among the crowd. As a whole it was a pleasant, well conducted

and excellently executed program of celebration, and the day closed with a dance at Spreckelsville hall as a fitting finale.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Mrs. Walter Lowrie is going up to Honolulu today for a visit.

Mrs. Charles - rare, who has spent a couple of weeks with her parents here, is returning to the city today. Her husband came down last night to accompany her home.

Kahului harbor is full, two vessels lying outside, waiting their turn. Messrs. Josef Cooke and E. R. Adams have been visiting the plantation during the week.

The father and sister of Mr. Andrew Adams are among the latest arrivals at this place. William Wilcox, the father of Messrs. Robert and Charles Wilcox of Honolulu, is at Olupakua, having recently returned from a long sojourn at the Coast.

Mr. Thompson, principal of Kamehameha Boys' School, is at Ukulele, near Olinda, on Haleakala.

Wednesday, the 20th, Misses Hart and Simpson, Mr. Frank Atherton and others returned from a trip around East Maui.

Last evening, the 22d, a concert was given in the Pauwela church. The program consisted of cornet solos, organ solos and songs by a Honolulu Glee Club.

On the 20th Mr. J. P. Cooke of Alexander & Baldwin arrived on Maui per Claudine.

Dr. W. F. McConkey has been vaccinating Makawao school children.

On the 27th Lahainaluna Seminary will hold commencement exercises in its chapel at Lahainaluna. Seven boys will be graduated. The students have printed and issued very neat cards of invitation and programs tied with narrow red ribbon.

Miss Simpson, who has been a teacher of Maimalaia Seminary for several years, departs today for the Mainland to study music for a year.

Mr. J. L. Zumwalt of Kahului, who has filled the position of port surveyor for several years past most efficiently, goes to Hana to accept a position on Hamoa plantation.

The police force of Wailuku has been much increased to cope with the present state of affairs.

## GENERAL NEWS OF MAUI.

The Week's Happenings Gleaned From Wailuku Newspaper

The following is taken from the Maui News:

"One day, one dollar," seems to be the slogan of the Japanese laborers on Maui. Some plantations probably could pay that amount and make money, but there are others which could not do so. Plenty of the right kind of labor can be secured for a less sum, if the plantations would put comfortable cottages on their plantations, and allow each family, say, about half an acre of land and enough water to irrigate it, thus enabling the laborers to raise their own vegetables, fruit and chickens.

The News has resisted the temptation to indulge in fellow journalism concerning the labor troubles on Maui during the last two weeks, because at this particular juncture of affairs it would be easy to write the stock of a sugar plantation down hundreds of thousands of dollars in value. Of course there was bound to be some friction in the matter of adjusting the labor question, but we want the Honolulu papers to be careful to avoid sensationalism in the matter of sporadic and easily regulated labor troubles on Maui.

One single yellow article in any of the leading Honolulu papers will do more harm to the sugar interests of the islands than all the labor troubles which can reasonably be anticipated.

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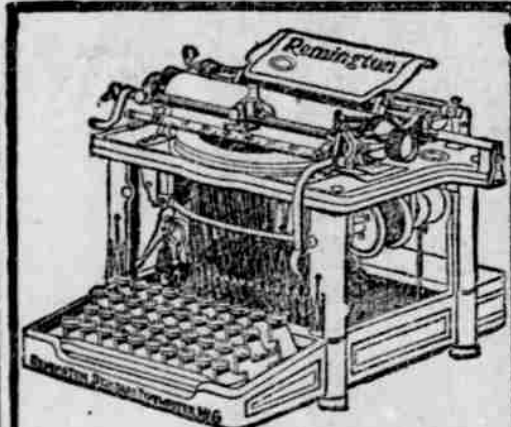
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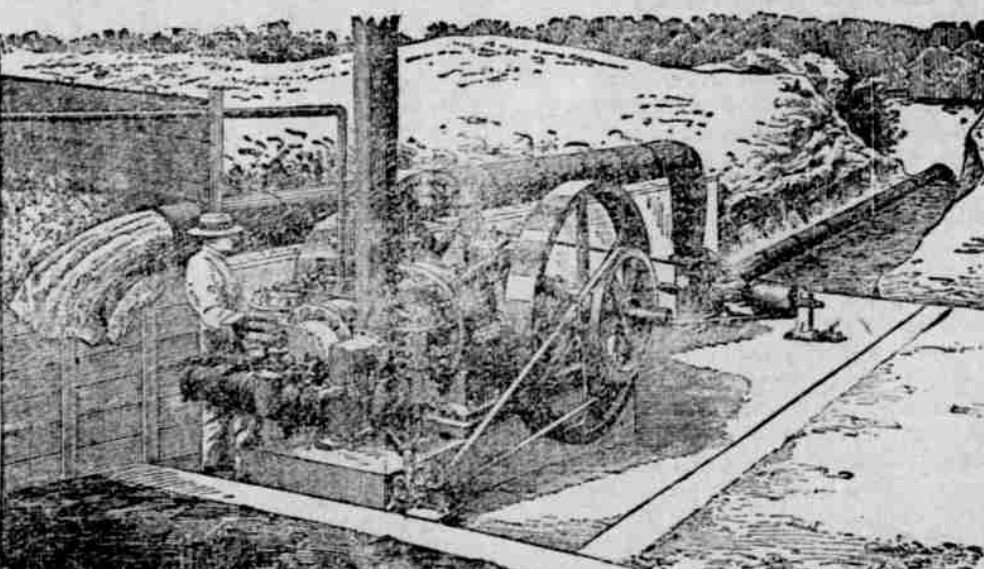
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